

Memorandum

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2000 2006



AARyan:nw
146-2-47-KB

Subject

CBS Report of Barbie Investigation

Date

April 7, 1983

General Counsel

83-02995

To Robert Gelbard
Department of State

Delbert Spurlock
Army General Counsel

From Allan A. Ryan, Jr.
Special Assistant to the
Assistant Attorney General

Central Intelligence Agency

Col. Don Press
OACSI, Department of the Army

Lt. Col. Ted Kershaw
U.S. Army IRR, Ft. Meade

On the April 5th broadcast of the CBS Evening News, Robert Schakne began his report on Klaus Barbie by stating "Evidence gathered so far by the Justice Department is now indisputable." Mr. Schakne went on to report in detail his conclusions about Barbie and U.S. intelligence.

Schakne's lead sentence erroneously implies that he has had access to, or at least has been informed of, the Justice Department "evidence" against Barbie. Please be assured that this is flatly untrue. Neither Mr. Schakne nor any other reporter has seen any part of the Department of Justice file on this matter nor have I or anyone else disclosed to Mr. Schakne or other reporters the contents of that file, or the "evidence" we have gathered. Schakne has privately admitted to me that such is indeed the case.

I consider this report, with its implication noted above, to be potentially a serious threat to the progress of the investigation because it falsely implies that I cannot or will not keep my information confidential. As I have expressed to each of you, I consider the confidentiality of our investigation to be of the utmost importance. I assure you that it has not and will not be breached by Schakne or anyone else.

I have expressed to Schakne personally, and to the President of CBS News, my strong disapproval of this irresponsible action.

Please make appropriate distribution of this memorandum within your organization and please inform each witness or potential witness of its contents should the necessity arise.

FOR COORDINATION WITH